

# HOUSE BILL 1127

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By: **Delegates Toles, Boaf, Boyce, Fennell, Harris, Holmes, D. Jones, Lehman, Pena-Melnyk, Taveras, Wells, and Wilkins**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Schools – Water Safety and Swimming – Instructional Content, Plan, and**  
3 **Reporting**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring each county board of education to develop certain  
5 instructional content on water safety and swimming for public school students in the  
6 county; requiring each county board to develop a certain plan regarding access to  
7 swimming pools and related facilities for a certain purpose; and generally relating to  
8 water safety and swimming and county boards of education.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Education

11 Section 7–452

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Education**

17 **7–452.**

18 **(A) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL DEVELOP**  
19 **INSTRUCTIONAL CONTENT ON WATER SAFETY AND SWIMMING THAT IS:**

20 **(1) INTEGRATED INTO THE HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION**  
21 **CURRICULUM FOR EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE COUNTY; AND**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(2) AGE-APPROPRIATE FOR STUDENTS IN ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE,**  
2 **AND HIGH SCHOOL.**

3           **(B) THE INSTRUCTIONAL CONTENT DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF**  
4 **THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES,**  
5 **IF PRACTICABLE.**

6           **(C) BEGINNING IN THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR, EACH COUNTY BOARD**  
7 **SHALL IMPLEMENT THE INSTRUCTIONAL CONTENT DEVELOPED UNDER**  
8 **SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.**

9           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

10           (a) (1) On or before December 1, 2025, each county board of education shall  
11 develop a plan to ensure public school students in the county have access to swimming pools  
12 for swimming and taking swimming and water safety courses.

13           (2) The plan required under this subsection shall:

14                   (i) identify strategies to maximize public and private resources to  
15 provide access to swimming pools and related facilities for public school students;

16                   (ii) identify public and private entities in the local community that  
17 could partner with schools to offer access to swimming pools and related facilities to public  
18 school students during school operating hours;

19                   (iii) identify methods to increase public school student access to  
20 swimming pools and related facilities, including costs and transportation, while keeping  
21 costs low; and

22                   (iv) recommend any necessary changes to policy or law to implement  
23 the plan required under paragraph (1) of this subsection and the requirements of § 7-452  
24 of the Education Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act.

25           (b) On or before December 15, 2025, each county board shall submit a copy of the  
26 plan developed under subsection (a) of this section to the State Department of Education.

27           (c) On or before January 1, 2026, the State Department of Education shall  
28 compile the reports submitted under subsection (b) of this section and submit a report that  
29 includes all the county boards' plans to the General Assembly, in accordance with §  
30 2-1257 of the State Government Article.

31           SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
32 1, 2025. Section 2 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of  
33 June 30, 2026, Section 2 of this Act, with no further action required by the General  
34 Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

